

## Game on for Glasgow: A Snapshot of International Action

**Climate Council** 

# Science Update



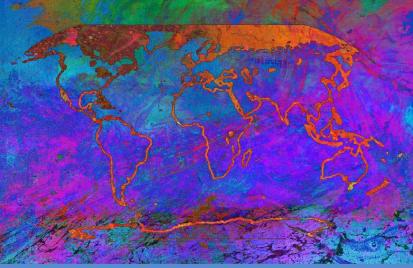




000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON Climate change

## Climate Change 2021 The Physical Science Basis

Summary for Policymakers



WGI



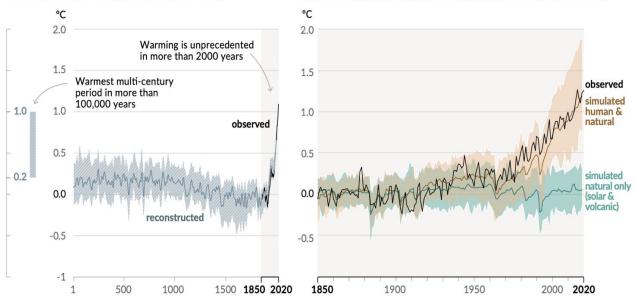
- Written by a team of 234 scientists from 66 countries
- Evaluated more than 14,000 individual ulletclimate change research papers
- Two rounds of expert and government  $\bullet$ review
- **Responded to 78,007 technical queries** throughout the review process
- Final report contains well in excess of one million words

Dr Joëlle Gergis Lead Author, IPCC AR6 WGI report Fenner School of Environment & Society, ANU

## **Changes in Global Surface Temperature**

#### Changes in global surface temperature relative to 1850-1900

a) Change in global surface temperature (decadal average) as reconstructed (1-2000) and observed (1850-2020)



b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as **observed** and simulated using human & natural and only natural factors (both 1850-2020)

**IPCC AR6 SPM 2021** 

## **Key Findings**

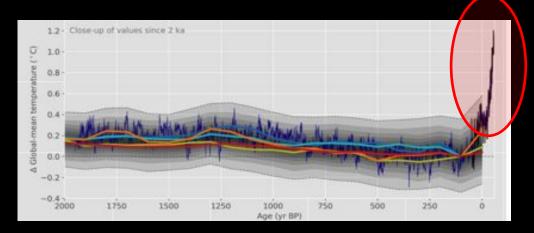
- 1. The scale and pace at which humans are changing the climate system has almost no precedent – melting ice sheets, acidifying oceans, shifting rainfall zones, rising sea levels....
- 2. Climate change and its impacts are accelerating: heatwaves, marine heatwaves, fire weather, storms & heavy rainfall, droughts....
- Worsening impacts are 'baked in' to the climate system for the next two decades at least.
- 4. Catastrophic events collapse of major ice sheets, rapid temperature increases cannot be ruled out and should be part of risk assessment.

## **Climate Change:**

## **An Earth System Perspective**

## Temperature rise is unprecedented over 2,000 years

**Human influence** 



The Late Holocene Baseline

Kaufman et al. 2020

## **Rates of Change**

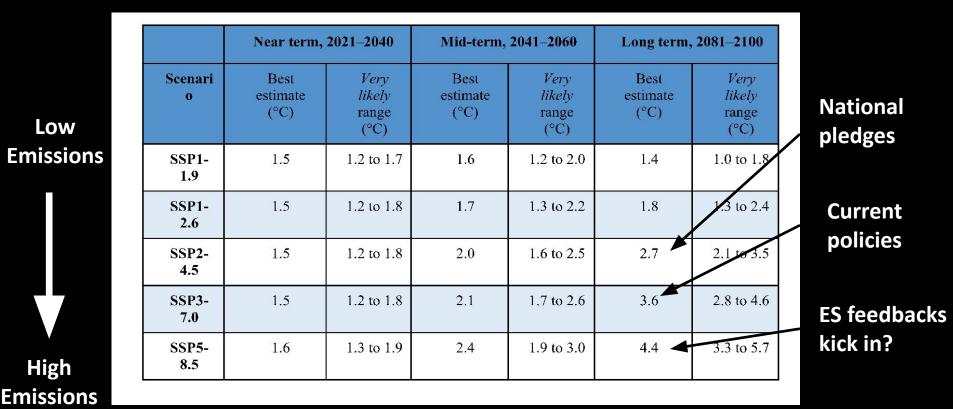
Rate of atmospheric  $CO_2$  increase over the past two decades is about 100 times the maximum rate during the last deglaciation.

Since 1970 the global average temperature has risen at a rate about 200 times the background rate over the past 7,000 years of the Holocene, and in the opposite direction.

The current rates of  $CO_2$  and temperature change are almost unprecedented in the entire 4.5 billion-year geological past.

De Vos et al. 2014; Wolff 2011; Marcott et al. 2013; NOAA 2016; Canfield et al. 2010; Lear et al. 2020

## **Projected temperature rise**



## **Australian Trends**

- Heatwaves will become more frequent and more intense.
- Further increase in marine heatwaves and ocean acidity (cf. GBR)
- The intensity, frequency and duration of fire weather is projected to increase throughout Australia.
- An increase in heavy rainfall in the northern, central and eastern parts of Australia.
- Further increases in droughts in the southern and eastern parts of Australia, and particularly in the southwest.
- Sea levels are rising faster than global average around Australia, leading to increasing coastal flooding and shoreline retreat.
- Sand storms and dust storms are projected to increase throughout Australia.

## What is required to meet this challenge?

## **GLOBAL:**

- No new coal, oil or gas developments
- 50% emission reduction by 2030 (on 2005 baseline)
- Net-zero emissions by 2040

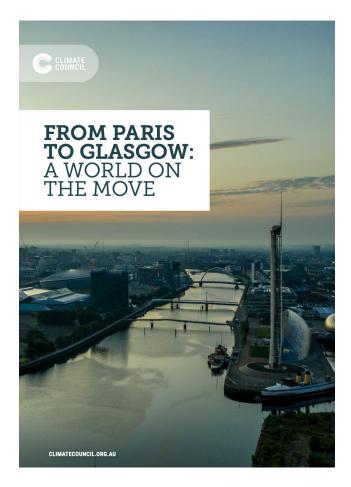
## **AUSTRALIA:**

No new coal, oil or gas developments 75% emission reduction by 2030 (on 2005 baseline) Net-zero emissions by 2035

## **Overall Summary of the AR6**

- The most important climate science update for almost a decade shows there is a narrow path to avoiding climate catastrophe, but only through immediate, deep and sustained emissions reductions. This may be our final warning.
- Climate change is already wreaking havoc around the world, with worse to come. Our decisions this decade will be the difference between a liveable future for today's young people, and a future that is incompatible with well-functioning human societies.
- Every choice and every fraction of a degree of avoided warming matters. The right choices will be measured in lives, livelihoods, species and ecosystems saved. Strong action NOW is essential for the future of our children and grandchildren.

Source: Simon Bradshaw, Climate Council IPCC AR6 Explainer



#### OUR NEW REPORT

# From Paris to Glasgow: A world on the move





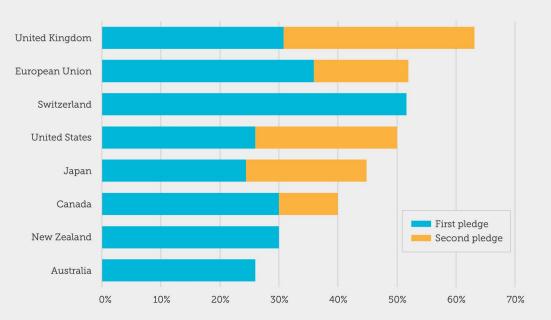
There has been a surge in international action leading up to COP26 and a rapid shift in the global politics of climate change.

Almost all developed countries have substantially strengthened their 2030 targets.

Climate change is a strategic priority for the world's major powers.

Australia is being left behind.

#### **INCREASE IN 2030 TARGETS SINCE COP25**



Pledged greenhouse gas emissions reduction in 2030 compared to 2005 levels



Our new ranking reveals that Australia is the worst performing developed country when it comes to cutting greenhouse gas emissions and moving beyond fossil fuels.

Our ranking looks at both past performance commitments moving forwards.

1. United Kingdom	16. Austria
2. Switzerland	16. Belgium
3. Sweden	18. Netherlands
4. Latvia	19. Czech Republic
5. Denmark	19. Greece
6. France	19. Luxembourg
7. Lithuania	19. Slovenia
8. Italy	23. Ireland
9. Hungary	23. United States
10. Japan	25. Estonia
11. Germany	26. Poland
12. Portugal	27. Canada
13. Norway	27. Turkey
14. Spain	29. Iceland
15. Finland	30. New Zealand
	31. Australia



Our new ranking reveals that Australia is the worst performing developed country when it comes to cutting greenhouse gas emissions and moving beyond fossil fuels.

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#### **EMISSIONS INCLUDING & EXLUDING LULUCF**



Australia is under unprecedented international pressure to strengthen its climate commitments.

For the first time, Australia's traditional allies and closest security partners, as well as our neighbours, are all calling for Australia to lift its 2030 emissions reduction target.

"By the time leaders come to Glasgow at COP26, it should be with immediate and transformative actions. Come with new commitments for serious cuts in emissions by 2030 – 50% or more. Come with commitments to become net- zero before 2050. Do not come with excuses. That time is past."

Fiji Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama in the foreword to our report



By strengthening our climate commitments and actions this decade, Australia can have an outsized and positive influence on what happens next around the world.

- Australia should reduce its emissions by 75% (below 2005 levels) by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2035. As a first step, Australia should match the updated commitments of our allies and pledge before Glasgow to at least halve national emissions this decade.
- To ensure this occurs, Australia needs a national plan to rapidly decarbonise our electricity and transport sectors, protect and restore our ecosystems, and support communities that are transitioning to new, clean industries.
- Australia should follow the US in doubling its current contribution to supporting climate action in developing countries, and pledge to provide at least AU\$3 billion over 2021-2025 towards the shared international goal of providing US\$100 billion a year.



By strengthening our climate commitments and actions this decade, Australia can have an outsized and positive influence on what happens next around the world.

- A commitment and plan for rapidly cutting our emissions this decade will unlock investment and create new jobs; particularly in regional areas. Australia has the potential to grow new clean export industries that far exceed the value of our current fossil fuel exports.
- New jobs in renewable energy, energy efficiency, ecosystem restoration, advanced manufacturing, etc.
- New export revenue from green steel, critical energy minerals, and clean energy
- A safer, healthy environment for Australians and communities everywhere





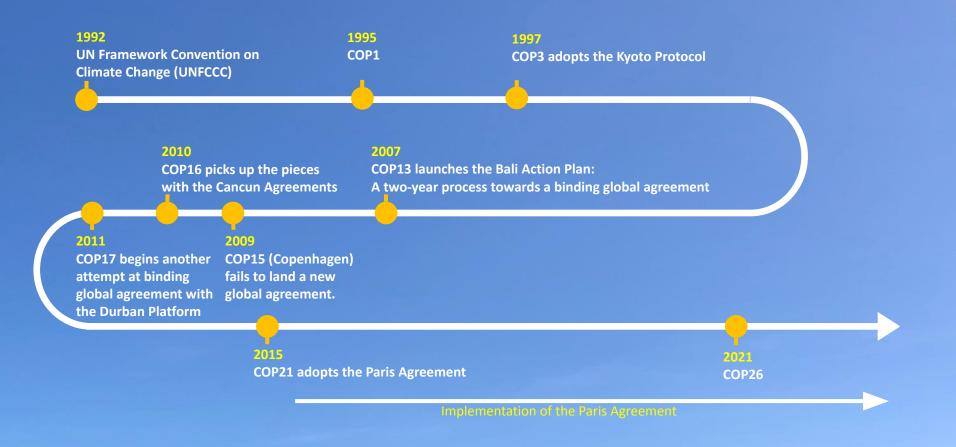


IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

# **COP26:** What it is and why it matters







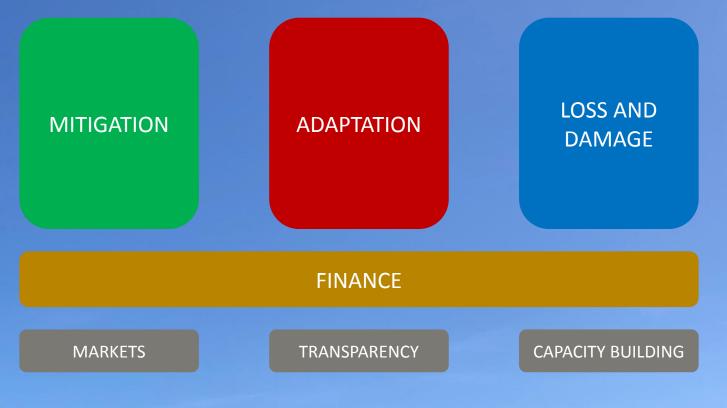


# Mechanics of COP: How the process works



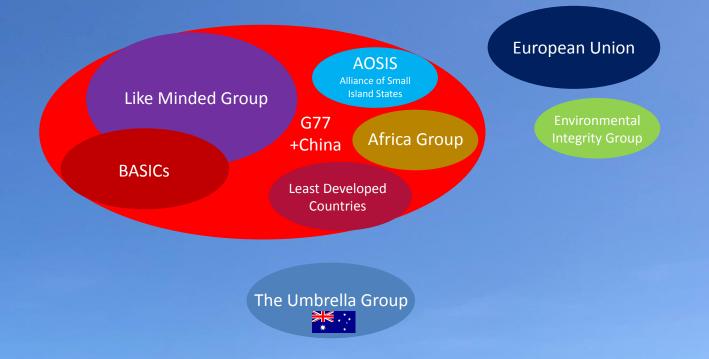


## **Key elements of the negotiations**





## **Negotiating blocs**





# Why COP26 matters



#### "Paris promised, Glasgow must deliver" Aloko Sharma, President of COP26



The Paris Agreement gave us the framework for action, but the sum of individual countries' commitments has remained way short of the what the Agreement demands.

**COP26** is about closing that gap.

In particular it is about bringing commitments for the coming decade into line with what the science demands.



# Why COP26 matters

#### **HEADLINE GOAL**

#### Mitigation

Secure global net zero and keep 1.5C within reach

#### **Adaptation**

Enabling vulnerable countries and communities to adapt to impacts

#### Mobilising finance

Make good on the \$100bn commitment

#### **Collaboration** Working together to accelerate action

#### EXPECTED PRESSURE ON AUSTRALIA

All about 2030 targets and action this decade

Australia will be announcing its (slightly revamped and woefully inadequate) adaptation plan. While adaptation is an important pillar of climate action, it's vital that any new commitment on this front doesn't take any pressure off Australia on mitigation.

Australia's contribution towards the \$100bn remains well short of a fair share. Like all developed countries, Australia will be under pressure to put some more money on the table.

The UK COP Presidency is very keen for this COP to be seen as the end of coal. Expect lots of new alliances/deals such as Beyond Oil and Gas and something on ending coal financing. Many of these will further highlight how isolated Australia is.



## Daily updates – join the conversation!

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